Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies

SHARING IDEAS FOR BETTER LAW ENFORCEMENT



June 27, 2005

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MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

MONTONA DIVISION OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION Honorable Arlen Specter, Chairman Judiciary Committee 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Specter and Committee Members:

The Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies (ASCIA) strongly endorses passage of the Combat Meth Act. Methamphetamine poses a serious drug threat to communities across the United States and because it is manufactured in our neighborhoods, it's a greater threat to our citizens than other drugs of abuse.

ASCIA is composed of 41 member states, and methamphetamine is the number one drug threat in many of those states. It's devastating effects are tearing families apart and endangering children who are being exposed to the deadly chemicals involved in the manufacturing process. It is also a serious threat to law enforcement officers when entry is made into a clandestine methamphetamine laboratory. We feel the passage of this bill, with its multi-pronged approach, will greatly reduce the effects of meth on the communities we serve and on our environment.

The Combat Meth Act addresses and provides needed funding for enforcement, education/prevention and treatment, but most importantly it will place pseudoephedrine-based products under Schedule V restrictions on the Federal level. I am sure you and the other committee members are aware of the efforts of several states to pass similar legislation on the state level. Without pseudoephedrine-based products, it is impossible to manufacture methamphetamine and the State of Oklahoma has shown the rest of the nation that the scheduling of these products will reduce meth production.

The membership of ASCIA strongly supports the Combat Meth Act. If there is anything we can do to help secure passage of this important legislation, please feel free to contact us in the future.

Sincerely,

RON REPLOGLE, Captain ASCIA Chairperson

www.ascia.org

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